



**CITY OF ABSECON  
Municipal Complex  
500 Mill Road  
Absecon, New Jersey 08201**

**JANUARY 2, 2014  
COUNCIL REORGANIZATION  
MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by City Clerk, Carie Crone at 7:00 p.m.

**FLAG SALUTE**

**INVOCATION** – Dr. Frank Blee, Absecon resident

**STATEMENT OF SUNSHINE LAW** – Carie

**NOTIFICATION OF MEETING** - Carie

**ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE**

**Donald Camp, Councilperson, Ward 1 was sworn in by Lynn Caterson**

**Chris Seher, Councilperson, Ward 2 was sworn in by Mayor John Armstrong**

**Michael Ring, Councilperson – At-Large was sworn in by Councilman Frank Phillips**

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Ring, Horton, Vizthum, Phillips, Camp, Cain, Seher

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor Armstrong; Jessica Thompson, CFO; Carie Crone, City Clerk

**ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

Nomination for Chris Seher was made by Councilwoman Horton – seconded by Councilman Camp  
No other nominations. Nominations were then closed.

Roll Call: Ring, yes; Horton, yes; Vizthum, yes; Phillips, yes; Camp, yes; Cain, yes; Seher, yes  
Chris was sworn in by Mayor John Armstrong

**ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM**

Nomination for Jim Vizthum was made by Councilman Phillips – seconded by Councilman Ring  
No other nominations. Nominations were then closed.

Roll Call: Ring, yes; Horton, yes; Vizthum, yes; Phillips, yes; Camp, yes; Cain, yes; Seher, yes  
Jim was sworn in by Councilman Frank Phillips

## **COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS – FOR THE YEAR 2014**

**Consent Agenda: All matters listed under Consent Agenda, are considered to be routine by this City Council and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.**

- 01** Authorizing the annual schedule of Work and Regular Meetings of Absecon City Council for the calendar year 2014.
- 02** Confirming meetings of City Committees, Commissions and Boards for the year 2014.
- 03** Awarding a contract for professional services for a City Auditor.  
Ford, Scott, and Associates, LLC.
- 05** Awarding a contract for professional services for a Labor Attorney.  
Stephen Barse, Counselor at Law.
- 06** Awarding a contract for professional services of a Public Defender.  
James P. Swift, Esq.
- 07** Awarding a contract for professional services for a Municipal Prosecutor.  
Kristopher Facenda, Counselor at Law
- 08** Awarding a contract for professional services of a City Planner.  
Remington, Vernick & Walberg, Engineers
- 09** Awarding a contract for professional services of a Bond Counsel.  
Ronald Ianoale, Esq.
- 10** Appointing an Authorized Agent for the sale of City owned land.  
Thomas L. Henshaw, Administrator
- 11** Authorizing the Tax Assessor as the Agent in Adjustment appeals to reduce assessments.
- 12** Designating the Interest and Penalty rate on unpaid taxes.
- 13** Designating the official newspapers.
- 14** Adopting the Cash Management Plan of the City of Absecon.
- 15** Establishing the 2014 Temporary Budget for Current Fund and Sewer Utility Fund.
- 16** Appointing a Risk Management Consultant for the Atlantic County Joint Insurance Fund.  
Michael F. Thomas, Glenn Insurance

- 17 Appointing a Fund Commissioner for the Atlantic County Municipal Joint Fund.  
Thomas L. Henshaw, City Administrator
- 18 Appointing a Councilperson to the Planning Board.  
Councilperson Kimberly Horton, 1 year
- 19 Appointing a Mercantile License Clerk.  
Carie A. Crone, RMC, re-appointment, 1 year
- 20 Appointing a Lien Clerk for the City of Absecon.  
Agnes Bambrick, CTC, re-appointment, 1 year
- 21 Ensuring Time Capsule to be opened in the year 2052.
- 22 Awarding a non-competitive contract for professional services for a Electrical Sub-Code Official.
- 23 Accepting a Performance Guarantee and Engineer's Escrow for site improvements on property known as Block 161, Lot 1 on behalf of Boardwalk Design and Development, Inc.
- 04 Awarding a contract for professional services for a City Attorney.  
Timothy P. Maguire, Attorney at Law.

Motion to move – Councilman Camp – second – Councilwoman Cain

Roll Call: Camp, yes; Cain, yes; Horton, yes; Ring, no; Phillips, no; Vizthum, no; Seher, yes

#### CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to move consent agenda – Councilman Camp – second – Councilwoman Cain

ROLL CALL: Ring, yes; Horton, yes; Vizthum, yes; Phillips, yes; Camp, yes; Cain, yes; Seher, yes

#### STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Mayor John Armstrong addressed the audience

#### COMMENTS

**Mike** – thanked the voters for their support and faith in him. He is grateful and honored to be here. He promised to do the best of his ability and looks forward to working with everyone. Also thanked his family for their love and support, especially his wife. Wished all a Happy New Year and thanked his fellow members of the Absecon Fire Dept. for another successful Santa run.

Kim – wished everyone a Happy New Year. She thanked Fred for his years of service to the city. Welcomed Mike to council and looks forward to working with him and to continue to work with the other members of council. She listed what the Community Affairs dept. completed in the last year.

**Jim** – appreciated everyone coming out tonight. Congratulated the election winners thanked all those who ran. Looks forward to working with everyone this year.

**Frank** – congratulated Chris, Don and Mike, Jim for a great job last year as council president and all the professionals.

**Don** – welcomed everyone at the meeting tonight and thanked the voters on his reelection. Hopes we can go with a flat tax rate this year on the city's end but 40% of our taxes go towards school tax.

**Sandy** – wished all a Happy New Year and for coming out. Welcomed Mike and also congratulated Chris and Don and welcomed Tim Maguire. Since she's been on council she has learned a lot this past year and still has a lot to learn. Looking forward to chairing the Public Works Committee.

**Chris** – agreed with the Mayor's comments about getting help from the county and state levels. He acknowledged some audience members: Assemblyman Chris Brown; Sheriff Frank Balles; Freeholder Alex Marino; Freeholder Rich Dase; Freeholder John Risley; former council people and family and friends. His biggest accomplishment is his 41 years of marriage to Alrene and grandkids. He will try to do a good job in working with this Council and the Mayor in the coming year. Agrees we should work on getting the area of the Absecon Creek developed as well as our airport, which is a great opportunity for this area. Thanked the voters for their confidence in him and all the council members for voting him in as council president. He appreciates their support.

**Tom Henshaw** – thanked the Mayor and Council for giving him the opportunity to come back to Absecon and he looks forward to working with everyone this year.

## **PUBLIC PORTION**

Motion to open meeting to the public – Councilman Camp – second – Councilman Vizthum  
All were in favor.

**Lynn Caterson** - 904 Marlborough Ave. – congratulated everyone and shared a sign that she has on her office wall that says "true authority is the power to serve" and that's what you all have. Wished everyone the best and knows they will do a super job.

Motion to close public portion – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Camp  
All were in favor.

**Chris** – invited all to the Black Cat for a buffet and cash bar compliments of council.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn meeting – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilwoman Cain  
All were in favor.

Respectfully,

Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_